

Message Text

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PAGE 01 GENEVA 05677 091755Z

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C O N F I D E N T I A L GENEVA 5677

EXDIS

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: SNAR, TU, UN

SUBJECT: GREENFIELD MISSION TO TURKEY

1. SUMMARY: GREENFIELD MET WITH PRIME MINISTER ECEVIT SEPT. 7. IN REPORTING ON THIS MEETING, GREENFIELD ASKED MISOFF (GOUGH) TO CONVEY TO AMB. MACOMBER HIS DEEP APPRECIATION OF AMBASSADOR'S HAVING MADE CONVERSATION POSSIBLE. PRIOR TO TALK WITH ECEVIT, GREENFIELD PRESENTED PAPER TO FOREIGN MINISTRY SETTING FORTH SOME PROPOSALS. THIS PAPER WAS CONSIDERED BY GOT EXPERTS AT MEETING HELD IMMEDIATELY PRIOR GREENFIELD/ECEVIT TALK AND SERVED AS BASIS THEIR DISCUSSION. MISOFF HAS NOT YET SEEN PAPER BUT UNDERSTANDS FROM GREENFIELD THAT IT PROPOSES TURKEY BAN ALL OPIUM PRODUCTION IN FAVOR EXCLUSIVE CULTIVATION OF UNINCISED POPPY STRAW, STRAW TO BE EXPORTED PENDING CONSTRUCTION OF MORPHINE EXTRACTION PLANT IN TURKEY AND WITH FARMERS RECEIVING COMPENSATION FOR ANY SHORTFALL BETWEEN PRICE OPIUM AND THAT OF STRAW UP TO TIME EXTRACTION PLANT IS OPERATIONAL. GREENFILED SAID ECEVIT REACTED FAVORABLY TO THESE PROPOSALS AND STATED THEY WOULD BE SERIOUSLY CONSIDERED. ECEVIT SAID THAT FOR TURKEY TO PROCEED POPPY STRAW ROUTE WOULD REQUIRE CHANGE IN LAW BUT NOTED HE DID NOT REGARD THIS AS SERIOUS OBSTACLE. ECEVIT ALSO SAID THAT HE WOULD ASK HEADS OF GOVT DEPARTMENTS CONCERNED WITH POPPY CULTIVATION TO REPORT ON GREENFIELD'S PROPOSALS BY SEPT 11 AND CABINET WOULD CONSIDER THEM SEPT 12. ECEVIT ASKED GREENFILED WHETHER HE THOUGH USG WOULD FAVOR PROPOSALS. GREENFIELD
CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 02 GENEVA 05677 091755Z

REPLIED TO EFFECT HE UNDERSTOOD USG DEFINITELY FAOVRED STRAW IN

LIEU OF OPIUM. GREENFILED AND MANBY ARE NOW IN ISTANBUL TO TALK WITH T.M.O. OFFICIALS IN EFFORT DISSUADE THEM FOR OPPOSING CONVERSION TO UNINCISED STRAW. THEY EXPECT RETURN GENEVA SEPT 10 TO PREPARE REPORT ON THEIR MISSION TO TURKEY. END SUMMARY.

2. IN CONVERSATIONS HELD WITH GREENFILED AND MANBY IN ISTANBUL SEPT 7, MISOFF LEARNED FOLLOWING.

3. ON MORNING OF SEPT 6, GREENFILED, PRIOR TO LEARNING HE WOULD BE ABLE SEE ECEVIT, GAVE PAPER TO FOREIGN MINISTRY SETTING FORTH PROPOSALS. MISOFF HAS NOT YET BEEN ABLE OBTAIN TEXT BUT UNDERSTANDS GIST TO BE AS FOLLOWS: (A) TURKEY WOULD CULTIVATE UNINCISED POPPY STRAW EXCLUSIVELY AND ABANDON ALL OPIUM PRODUCTION AS FROM NOW; (B) TURKEY WOULD EXPORT STRAW UNTIL TURKISH MORPHINE EXTRACTION PLANT CAN BE CONSTRUCTED AND BECOME OPERATIONAL; AND (C) IF THERE SHOULD BE PRICE DIFFERENCE BETWEEN STRAW AND OPIUM TO DISADVANTAGE POPPY FARMERS, THEY WOULD BE COMPENSATED FOR SHORTFALL UP TO TOME MORPHINE EXTRACTION PLANT OPERATIONAL.

4. GREENFILED MET WITH ECEVIT AROUND FORTH MINUTES SEPT 7 AM, WITH GREENFIELD'S PROPOSALS SERVING AS BASIS DISCUSSION. IN REPORTING ON CONVERSATION GREENFIELD ASKED MISOFF TO CONVEY TO AMB. MACOMBER HIS DEEP APPRECIATION FOR ARRANGING APPOINTMENT WITH ECEVIT. IMMEDIATELY PRIOR TO ECEVIT/GREENFIELD TALK, VARIOUS GOT EXPERTS MET TO DISCUSS GREENFIELD'S PROPOSALS. PRESENT AT SUBSEQUENT ECEVIT/GREENFIELD TALKS WERE: ACTING FOREIGN MINISTER, SOYLEMEZ OF FOREIGN MINISTRY AND TURKISH INCB MEMBER KAYMAKCALAN. DURING CONVERSATION ECEVIT INDICATED HE SAW NO REASON WHY TURKEY SHOULD NOT GO AHEAD ON BASIS PROPOSED BY GREENFIELD. HE WAS PARTICULARLY PLEASED THAT GREENFIELD PLAN ENVISAGED CONSTRUCTION OF MORPHINE EXTRACTION PLANT IN TURKEY AND COMPENSATION TO POPPY FARMERS IF STRAW PRICE IS LESS THAN THAT FOR OPIUM UNTIL EXTRACTION PLANT OPERATIONAL. ECEVIT STATED THAT CHANGE IN LAW WOULD BE REQUIRED TO PERMIT TURKEY GO STRAW ROUTE BUT NOTED HE DID NOT REGARD THIS AS PRESENTING SERIOUS OBSTACLE. SAID HE INTENDED ASK HEADS OF GOVT DEPARTMENTS CONCERNED WITH POPPY

CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 03 GENEVA 05677 091755Z

CULTIVATION TO CONSIDER GREENFIELD PROPOSALS AND REPORT TO HIM BY SEPT 11. CABINET WOULD MEET SEPT 12 TO CONSIDER MATTER. ECEVIT ASKED WHETHER GREENFIELD RESPONED TO EFFECT HE UNDERSTOOD USG DEFINITELY FAVORED PRODUCTION STRAW IN LIEU OF OPIUM.

5. SOULEMEZ, WHO ON VERGE OF DEPARTING ANKARA FOR NEW YORK TO ATTEND UNGA, TOLD GREENFIELD HE PERSONALLY SUPPORTS

HIS PROPOSALS AND HOPES BE ABLE ANNOUNCE GOT ACCEPTANCE OF THEM WHEN THIRD COMMITTEE TAKES UP NARCOTICS MATTERS.

6. WE ARE NOT CLEAR WHETHER QUESTION OF FINANCING STRAW PROCESSING PLANT AND COMPENSATION FOR FARMERS WAS DISCUSSED DURING ECEVIT/GREENFIELD TALK. IN ANY EVENT GREENFIELD, ON BASIS OF HIS CONVERSATIONS DURING HIS TOUR POPPY GROWING REGION, BELIEVES THAT FACTORY CAN BE FINANCED BY TURKS THEMSELVES, NOTABLY BY COMBINATION OF FARMERS' COOPERATIVE, TMO AND (UNIDENTIFIED) TURKISH INDUSTRIAL GROUP. HOWEVER, GREENFIELD CONSIDERS THAT WHOLE EFFORT TO KEEP TURKEY OUT OF OPIUM PRODUCTION AND FIRMALY ON STRAW ROUTE WILL PROVE "DUD" UNLESS FACTORY IS BUILT WITHOUT DELAY. IN ORDER PERMIT THIS HE THINKS EXTERNAL STANDBY "BRIDGING FINANCING" SHOULD BE MADE AVAILABLE AND FEASIBILITY STUDY SHOULD PROCEED QUICKLY. RE COMPENSATION TO FARMERS IN VENET SHORTFALL IN PRICE BETWEEN STRAW AND OPIUM, GREENFIELD SAYS HE ENVISAGES THAT STAND-BY FUND SHOULD BE FORTHCOMING FROM EXTERNAL SOURCES.

7. WE ARE ALSO NOT CLEAR AS TO WHETHER GREENFIELD PAPER DEALT WITH ACREAGE REDUCTION AND WITH NEED FOR CONTIGUOUS PLANTING ACCESSIBLE TO ROADS. WHETHER EITHER SUBJECT WAS DISCUSSED DURING GREENFIELD/ECEVIT TALK IS FURTHERMORE UNCLEAR. WE PLAN SEEK CLARIFICATION. IN ANY EVENT, GREENFIELD/MANBY HAVE COMMENTED TO EFFECT THAT CULTIVATION PLANS, WHICH ENVISAGED LICENSING OF 20,000 HECTARES, ARE MUCH TOO FAR ADVANCED AT FARMER LEVEL TO MAKE ACREAGE REDUCTION PRACTICABLE ROUTE FOR GOT POLITICAL LEADERSHIP TO PURSUE NOW. FURTHERMORE GREENFIELD REITERATES HE BELIEVES STRONGLY THAT THIS ELEMENT IS RELATIVELY UNIMPORTANT IF OPIUM PRODUCTION IS PROHIBITED AND TURKEY CONVERTS NOW TO EXCLUSIVE CULTIVATION UNINCISED STRAW. ON MATTER OF CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 04 GENEVA 05677 091755Z

CONTIGUOUS PLANTING CLOSE TO ROADS, GREENFIELD/MANBY SAY THAT DURING THEIR VISIT TO POPPY GROWING AREAS IN WHICH 68 PERCENT OF PLANTING IS TO BE PERMITTED, INFO PROVIDED INDICATES THAT AUTHORITIES ARE ALREADY THINKING IN TERMS AGGREGATED ACREAGE NEAR ROADS IN MANNER THAT SHOULD PERMIT ADEQUATE SURVEILLANCE. MANBY NOTES, HOWEVER, THAT INFO GREENFIELD TEAM OBTAINED ON THIS SCORE IS "SUPERFICIAL."

8. COMMENT; MISOFF HAS REPORTED FOREGOING TO INCB SECRETARY DITTERT. HE AGREES THAT FOR TURKS TO OUTLAW PRODUCTION OF OPIUM AND GO STRAW ROUTE WOULD CONSTITUTE MAJOR STEP FORWARD, INTER ALIA, BECAUSE IT WOULD FACILITATE FURTHER CHANGE FROM SOMNIFERUM STRAW TO BRACEATUM. HOWEVER, HE IS VERY CONCERNED AT EXTENT PROPOSED POPPY CULTIVATION FOR NEXT CROP YEAR. HE IS ALSO

VERY CONCERNED THAT GOT HAS APPARENTLY NOT YET GIVEN FIRM ASSURANCES THAT ACREAGE WILL BE CONCENTRATED IN MANNER WHICH WILL PERMIT EFFECTIVE SURVEILLANCE. HE/WE PLAN TO DRAW GREENFILED OUT WHEN HE RETURNS GENEVA SEPT 10 TO ASCERTAIN PROCISELY HOW THESE POINTS WERE LEFT WITH GOT. DITTERT/WE BELIEVE IN ANY EVENT THAT USG SHOULD CONTINUE PURSUE BOTH MATTERS WITH GOT AND IN TIME INFLUENCE CABINET DECISION WHICH PRESUMABLY MAY BE TAKEN SEPT 12. DITTERT EXPRESSES CONCERN ALSO ABOUT PROSPECT ESTABLISHMENT MORPHINE EXTRACTION PLANT IN TURKEY. HE BELIEVES THAT SUCH MOVE MAY WELL CREATE VESTED INTERESTS WHICH WILL MAKE IT DIFFICULT LATER PERSUADE GOT MOVE FROM SOMNIFERUM STRAW TO BRACTEATUM. THEREFORE HE STILL HOPES IT MAY BE POSSIBLE PERSUADE TURKS THINK IN TERMS OF BRACTEATUM RATHER THAN SOMNIFERUM EXTRACTION PLANT, PARTICULARLY SINCE INSTALLATION ANY PLANT WILL INEVITABLY TAKE SOME TIME DURING WHICH BRACTEATUM ADVANTAGE WILL BECOME EVEDENT.DALE

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